

c.) Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended) In a computer system having a display, a method for creating and using computer passwords, including the steps of:

visually displaying graphic objects on the display;

selecting at least one of said graphic object objects and designating it as a password graphic object;

applying said password graphic object to a further graphic object to create a password protected graphic object, whereby said password protected graphic object cannot function unless said password graphic object is first applied as a key to unlock said further password protected graphic object.

2. (currently amended) In a computer system having a display, a method for creating and using computer passwords, including the steps of:

visually displaying graphic objects on the display;

selecting a plurality of said graphic objects and joining them and designating them as a password graphic object;

applying said password graphic object to lock and password-protect a further graphic object, whereby said further graphic object cannot be accessed unless said password graphic object is first used to unlock said further object.

3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein said plurality of objects include at least one of the following categories of graphic objects: alphanumeric

characters, recognized hand drawn graphic objects, freeline hand drawn objects, and pictures.

4. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein said plurality of objects include more than one of the following categories of graphic objects: alphanumeric characters, recognized hand drawn graphic objects, freeline hand drawn objects, and pictures.

5. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein said plurality of objects are each displayed in a respective color.

6. (original) The method of claim 5, further including at least two distinct color palettes, each of said plurality of objects having a respective color selected from said color palettes.

7. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein one of said color palettes displays 34 colors.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the other of said color palettes displays millions of colors.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the combinatorial possibilities of said password graphic object includes the categories of said

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plurality of objects, the colors of said plurality of objects, and the spatial arrangement of said plurality of objects.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said step of designating as a password graphic object includes the step of accessing the Info Canvas of one of said plurality of selected graphic objects and selecting the Make Password entry, whereby all of said plurality of selected graphic objects are incorporated into said password.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said step of designating as a password graphic object also glues together all of said plurality of selected objects.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said step of applying said password graphic object includes the step of dragging said password graphic object to superpose on said further graphic object.

13. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of unlocking said password-protected further object includes the steps of displaying said further object, recalling or redrawing said plurality of objects that form said password, and dragging said plurality of object to superpose on said password-protected further graphic object.